

Carmichaels Area School District



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Mr. Fred Morecraft, Superintendent
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March 13, 2020

Dear Carmichaels Area School District Community:

The Carmichaels Area School District, in response to increasing concerns regionally and nationally in regards to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), and in accordance with Governor Wolf's March 12, 2020 directive at 4:35PM, CASD has decided to **suspend planned field trips, trips outside of the Commonwealth, and teacher travel to conferences/training, for the time being.**

We will continue to closely monitor this situation over the next few days and weeks. This will give us time to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and families. The district is taking further measures to plan for the education of our students through the use of Flexible Instruction Days that the district was approved to use earlier in the year, should school be suspended for any period of time. Students will be able to access education through electronic means through Google Classroom, or sent home packets. CASD has been approved to use five days for flexible instruction purposes. If any additional days are required, the district plans to continue to offer education to our students while allowing access to teachers by electronic means. We are also exploring ways to provide meals to students, should schools be closed for extended periods of time, which will be communicated through further correspondence.

In the mean time, CASD and our bus transportation partner, STA, are taking measures to ensure proper cleaning and disinfecting are happening in all areas. We realize that truancy is a concern of many families. While we are still required to follow Commonwealth guidelines, the district is working to adjust policies to allow absences for the reasons of health and safety. We will certainly work with all families on a case by case basis to ensure students and families are treated fairly and just. Communication is key for all parties to understand the magnitude of this serious event.

Although there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our immediate area to date, the district feels that we have the responsibility to protect the health and well-being of every student, staff, and members of our school community. We realize that this is a difficult time, and that this news is disappointing. The district is trying to make decisions that encompass our number one priority, which is the safety of our children.

We are carefully monitoring the situation. Additional information will be provided in the future, as necessary.

Yours Very Sincerely and Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fred Morecraft', written in a cursive style.

Fred Morecraft